A Letter from Executive Director
Tiffany FitzGerald

Dear DC Greens Community,

July 28 marks my one year anniversary as Executive Director of DC Greens. I’m so incredibly proud of this team, our work, and our commitment to the things we believe in.

At DC Greens we believe that:

illaume Food is medicine.

Access to affordable, nutritious food is a basic human right.
Food justice, land justice and even housing justice are inextricably linked.

All of our bodies are sacred.

All of our experiences have value.

Preserving our traditional foodways and artistic and cultural practices is an essential component of our health.

When we live and breathe and anchor ourselves in these truths, entire communities thrive and our wholeness is contagious. It is irresistible! It is worth working for and humbling yourself in the face of, day after day after day.

DC Greens’ place-making work at The Well, our advocacy helping the Food is Medicine movement keep those fleeting legislative windows open just a little bit longer — it's the work I've always dreamed of championing loudly and unapologetically. It is what I desired professionally and personally before I could even put a name to it, and I'm so thankful for the privilege of being able to build community around it.

In closing, talk to us and come and get down with us! We need you and your unique talents. We need ALL the griots and truth tellers and artists and herbalists and foodies and teachers and freedom fighters and school of hard knocks graduates and tree huggers and aunties and fathers and elders and young people that call our city home because all of our fates are linked together.

In love & solidarity,
Tiffany FitzGerald
Executive Director, DC Greens

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The Well at Oxon Run
What's Good at the Farm?
and eggplants ready to be harvested. So long as the weather is on our side, we can anticipate welcoming our community to harvest and pick your own produce the first and second week of August. All are welcomed to join during our operating hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am-5pm and Saturdays 10am-4pm.

**Upcoming Events at The Well**

- **Yoga** is every Saturday at The Well! Join Jailia for an all level flow class at The Well. Classes are FREE and open to all! Bring your own mat, reusable water bottle, and bug spray. Please sign up [HERE](#)!
- **Capital Area Food Bank Produce Distribution.** Our farmers market stand will be open for produce distribution from CAFB as well as items from the farm August 23rd, September 27th, and October 25th.

**Partner Programming**

The Well at Oxon Run is welcoming new partners in the space to provide workshops, youth programming, and educational experiences for community members! DC Greens is excited to collaborate with **Congress Heights Community Arts & Culture Center, FRESHFARM, Connected to Culture, and Congress Heights Community Training & Development Corporation**! We also want to extend a shoutout to **GoGreen LLC** for providing overall infrastructure support. Welcome to the team for the summer and fall season, all!

Our partner programming will launch soon; stay tuned to our [website](#) for information on how to get involved.

**Produce Rx News**

**Fresh Connect Card Transition**

The Produce Rx team has been hard at work supporting our current Produce Rx program participants' transition to using the Fresh Connect Card. Re-enrollment for current participants closed on June 30th and over 800 participants were re-enrolled. Some participants have received their new cards in the mail already! Additionally, re-enrolled participants will receive an updated program brochure and our NEW Produce Rx Health Tracker. The PRx Health Tracker tool was designed by our Produce Rx Coordinator, Emily Corry, for program participants to track their blood pressure, blood sugar & take note of important information from appointments with their healthcare provider. See the image below for a preview of the PRx Health Tracker.
Community Engagement

Half-Price Metro Fares Now Available for DC SNAP Users

Attention all DC SNAP users! Did you know that you can now receive a half-off fare discount from WMATA?? The new “Metro Lift” program will help reduce the transit burden for an estimated 90,000 DC residents and is open now! Enrollment can be done either online via the WMATA website or in person (Metro Center Metro Station on the Mezzanine level, the Metro Office Building at L’Enfant Plaza, and the Metro Office Building at New Carrollton).

Participants must provide their contact information, SmarTrip card number, and photos of their state-issued photo ID and SNAP EBT card to enroll. Discounts are available 48 hours after enrolling online or immediately if you enroll in person. Customers will have to re-enroll every year.

https://wmata.com/fares/Reduced-Fare-Programs/MetroLift/index.cfm

Food Access Updates

Community members across the District are struggling to access the food they need to feed themselves and their families due to the closing of expanded pandemic aid
benefit users get the support they need. We include here several helpful updates from DCHS.

**Looking for ways to stretch your SNAP benefits?** Check out the FRESHFARM FreshMatch – a program that provides a dollar-for-dollar match (up to $30) on federal benefits, including SNAP, spent at FRESHFARM markets per day – and DC Central Kitchen’s SNAP Match – a program that provides SNAP customers with a $5 coupon for free fruits and vegetables every time they spend more than $5 using their SNAP/EBT card at select Healthy Corners stores.

**Looking for resources for kids?** The D.C. Youth Meals Program (aka Summer Food Service Program) has officially begun! District children up to age 18 can receive meals at designated meal sites at no cost while school is out during the summer months. There are no requirements to receive a meal. Sites are open now through August 27. To find a site near you, text “Food” or “Comida” to 304-304, call 1-866-3-HUNGRY, or visit the U.S. Department of Agriculture Summer Meal Site Finder.

**Are you a WIC user or WIC-eligible?** The DC WIC Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) is available now and lasts until November 30. FMNP provides eligible WIC participants with a $30 benefit to purchase fresh produce and herbs at local farmers markets. Participants may redeem benefits electronically by signing up for eFMNP – to sign up, visit your local WIC agency, which will set you up with a QR code sticker or call your local agency site to schedule an appointment and pick up your sticker. The local agency will add the sticker to your eWIC card, provide information on setting up an online portal account and mark that the benefit has been issued in the WIC system. Soon, Dreaming Out Loud will also be offering WIC FMNP Home Delivery. Stay tuned to DCWic.org for more information.

**FRESH STARTS Act to Reform and Transform Jail Food Moves Forward**

This month, our jail food reform efforts took a giant step forward with the passing of two major milestones: the DC Greens (DCG) Testimony Training for Returned Citizens and the first hearing for the FRESH STARTS Act in the DC Council. On July 6, the DC Greens team led a group of returned citizens, community advocates, and organizational partners in an info session and testimony training at the offices of our partners, the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI). Attendees received a detailed walk-through of the FRESH STARTS Act from DCG Policy Strategist Winnie Huston, and then had the opportunity to work in small groups with DCG and partner...
advancing the FRESH STARTS Act. In all, the Judiciary Committee had over 50 persons sign up to testify live in support of FRESH STARTS – including several returned citizens with direct experience, former ANC7F08 (serving the DC jail) Commissioner Joel Castón, and current ANC 7F08 Commissioner Leonard Bishop. Click here to watch the recording of the FRESH STARTS Act hearing and here to learn more about our campaign to reform and transform jail food in DC.

Celebrating Black August

Black August began in the 1970s to mark the assassination of imprisoned Black Panther, author, and revolutionary George Jackson during a prison rebellion in California. The month of August is rich with the history of Black resistance, from the Haitian Revolution to the Watts rebellion and 2014 uprising in Ferguson, MO. Commemorating heroes of the Black freedom struggle before the start of the new school year, Black August also feels closely aligned with the spirit of the Black Panthers' Breakfast Program, which put pressure on political leaders to feed children before school.

Black August is a reminder of the power in unity, and a mandate to continue joint struggle. We honor those who came before us paving the way to a more liberated future.

How Would You Use $1K to Make DC More Awesome?!

The DC chapter of the Awesome Foundation is offering $1,000 grants to nonprofit organizations that make DC more awesome. DC residents interested in improving the District of Columbia through arts, culture, and/or community experiences are highly encouraged to apply. The deadline to submit an application is Sunday, August 13, 2023. The full application can be found here.

Join The Team

We need hands at The Well at Oxon Run! The fields are in transition which means the farm team will need help on the fields. If you would like to join Farm Manager Kenneth and Farm Assistant Wes, please sign up HERE.